

MTSA/ISPS POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL

January 18, 2005

Issue/Discussion/Decision

Personal Identification

49-05

FINAL

Issue (49-05): If passports are required to be kept onboard a foreign vessel, what acceptable means of identification can a foreign mariner use to gain access to a facility for the purposes of shore leave?

Answer:

Passports, seaman's books, STCW Endorsements, and Drivers Licenses are acceptable forms of identification that a foreign mariner could use to access a facility, when these documents meet the requirements stated in 33 CFR 101.515. If a mariner possesses both a seaman's book and a passport, only the passport should be locked up for safe keeping and the seaman's book could be used for photo identification.

When passports are required to be left onboard the vessel and no other form of identification is available for the mariner, a photo identification document meeting the requirements of 33 CFR 101.515 should be provided by the vessel owner or operator for the purpose of facilitating shore leave in the United States.

As part of the pre-arrival requirements of 33 CFR 105.200 facility owners and operators are expected to discuss the acceptable forms of identification that the facility would accept in order to allow mariners the ability to access their facility traveling to and from shore leave.